[0022] In some embodiments of the power receiver, the resonant circuit comprises a resonant transformer having a primary winding, a secondary winding, and resonant capacitor connected in series with the primary winding.

[0023] In some embodiments of the power receiver, the resonant circuit comprises multiple resonant transformers having primary windings connected in parallel to the ground terminal.

[0024] In some embodiments of the power receiver, the resonant transformers have different resonant frequencies.

[0025] In some embodiments of the power receiver, the resonant frequencies of the resonant transformers are all below 200 Hz.

[0026] In some embodiments of the power receiver, the resonant frequencies of the resonant transformers are matched to respective Schumann resonances.

[0027] Other embodiments of the disclosure comprise a ground terminal for a power receiver. In one embodiment, the ground terminal comprises a ground shaft configured for insertion beneath the surface of the earth, a hollow cylinder surrounding the ground shaft and having a plurality of openings, and a plurality of ground wires connected at one end to the ground shaft. The ground wires are wound around the ground shaft and have free ends protruding through respective openings in the hollow shaft so that rotation of the ground shaft relative to the hollow cylinder causes the ground wires to extend radially into the earth.

[0028] Other embodiments of the disclosure comprise methods of extracting power from the earth. In one embodiment, the method comprises applying a high voltage impulse to resonant circuit coupled to a ground terminal disposed beneath the surface of the earth to initiate resonance in the resonant circuit and induce the flow of current from the ground terminal to the resonant circuit, and converting the current flowing from the ground terminal into the resonant circuit into a useful form.

[0029] In some embodiments of the method, the resonant circuit comprises a resonant transformer including a primary winding coupled to the ground terminal and a second winding coupled to a power converter, and applying a high voltage impulse to resonant circuit comprises applying a high voltage impulse to the primary winding of the resonant transformer.

[0030] In some embodiments of the method, applying a high voltage impulse to the primary winding of the resonant transformer comprises applying an impulse in the range to 10,000 to 40,000 volts to primary winding of the transformer.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0031] FIG. **1** illustrates a first exemplary embodiment of a power receiver.

[0032] FIG. **2** illustrates a second exemplary embodiment of a power receiver.

[0033] FIG. **3** illustrates a third exemplary embodiment of a power receiver.

[0034] FIG. **4** illustrates a fourth exemplary embodiment of a power receiver.

[0035] FIG. **5** illustrates a fifth exemplary embodiment of a power receiver.

[0036] FIG. **6**A is an exploded perspective view of an exemplary ground antenna array for the power receiver.

[0037] FIG. **6**B is a perspective view of an assembled ground antenna array before being deployed.

[0038] FIG. **6**C is a perspective view of an assembled ground antenna array after being deployed.

[0039] FIG. **7**A is a side view of an insertion tool for installing the ground antenna array.

[0040] FIG. **7**B is a top view of the insertion tool for installing the ground antenna array.

[0041] FIG. **7**C is a bottom view of the insertion tool for installing the ground antenna array.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0042] Referring now to the drawings, a power receiver for extracting energy from the earth's electric field are illustrated and indicated generally by the numeral **10**. Various embodiments of the power receiver **10** are described and similar reference numbers are used throughout the description to indicate similar components.

[0043] The power receiver **10** converts energy in the ELF/ULF waves to useful form, e.g. 60 Hz AC or DC. The power receiver **10** is essentially a resonance circuit that resonates at the natural resonance frequencies in the earth's electric field. These resonance frequencies, known as Schumann resonance frequencies, occur at 7.83 Hz, 14.3 Hz, 20.8 Hz, 27.3 Hz, and 33.8 Hz. A high voltage impulse initiates resonance within the power receiver **10**. In the resonant mode, the impedance of the power receiver **10** is reduced to near zero thus inducing ground currents to flow into the power receiver **10** where the ground currents are converted to useful form.

[0044] FIG. **1** illustrates a first embodiment of the power receiver **10**. The power receiver **10** comprises a resonant transformer **30** connected between an elevated terminal **15** and ground terminal **25**. In this embodiment, the elevated terminal **15** is capacitively coupled to electric fields within the earth's ionosphere cavity and functions as an upper capacitive plate. A lower capacitive plate **20** is connected to the ground terminal **25** beneath the surface of the earth.

[0045] The resonant transformer **30** comprises a primary winding **35**, secondary winding **40**, ferromagnetic core **45**, and capacitor **50**. One end of the primary winding **35** is connected to the lower capacitive plate **20** and ground terminal **25**. The opposite end of the primary winding **35** is connected via a spark gap **90** to the elevated terminal **15**. The capacitor **50** is connected in parallel with the primary winding **35** of the resonant transformer **30** to form an LC circuit **55** with a resonance frequency range of between about 0.1 and 200 Hz. In a preferred embodiment, the resonant transformer has a Q of about 10 or greater and resonance frequency in the range of about 0.1-200 Hertz. For example, the resonant transformer **30** may have a resonance frequency of about 7.83 Hz, the fundamental Schumann resonance frequency. The secondary winding **40** of the resonant transformer **30** is connected to a power converter **110** as will be hereinafter described in greater detail. The power converter **110** converts the energy extracted from the earth's electric field by the power receiver **10** into a usable form for driving a load **140**.

[0046] The elevated terminal/upper capacitive plate **15** comprises an insulated, dish-shaped plate with a large radius of curvature. The capacitance and resistance of the elevated terminal is chosen for receiving broadband electric field frequencies in the 0-200 Hz range. The upper capacitive plate **15** is sized to maximize to the extent practical coupling with the electric field in the earth's ionosphere cavity.